

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

**RONALD J. TENPAS
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

APRIL 13, 2004

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on April 6, 2004, **MICHAEL R. JINES**, a/k/a “Mikey,” age 23, of Murphysboro, Illinois, was sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. JINES, who had previously pled guilty to a one-count indictment charging him with conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine, was sentenced to 60 months’ imprisonment, 5 years supervised release, and was fined \$200.

The investigation established that from at least June 2002, through August 2003, JINES and others were involved in the manufacture and use of methamphetamine in Murphysboro, Illinois. During the time of the charged conspiracy, JINES obtained large quantities of pseudoephedrine pills for others to use to manufacture methamphetamine.

The investigation was conducted by the Jackson County Sheriff’s Office and the Murphysboro Police Department pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. The goal of the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is to remove illegal guns and drugs from our communities. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses. The Jackson County Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney’s Office, Jackson County States Attorney’s Office, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Carbondale Police Department, Jackson County Sheriff’s Office, Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, and Murphysboro Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson.